



Annual Performance Report Form

Facility Name: US Borax

Performance Track ID #: A090020

Annual Performance Report #: 1

Reporting Year: 2001

Due Date: April 1, 2002

Section A

General Facility Information

To the extent possible, EPA will pre-complete items A.1-A.8 for you. Please ensure that the information in A.1-A.8 below is accurate, complete, and up to date. Please supply or revise any information as necessary and then check the box to the left of the item(s) to indicate where changes have been made. Items A.9 and A.10 cannot be pre-completed; please respond as directed in A.9 and A.10 below.

Did you make changes? If so, check box.

- A.1 ☐ Name of your facility: US Borax Inc. - Wilmington Operations
- A.2 ☐ Name of your parent company: Rio Tinto Limited
- A.3 ☐ Facility contact person for the Performance Track program
Name: Mr./Mrs./Ms./Dr. Gerald M. Pepper
Title: Manager Environmental Affairs
Phone: (661) 287-5788 Fax: (661) 287-5566 E-mail: gerry.pepper@borax.com
- A.4 ☐ Facility's location
Street Address: 300 Falcon Street
Street Address (cont.):
City/State/Zip Code: Wilmington, CA 90744
- A.5 ☐ Facility's website address (if any): <http://www.borax.com/>
- A.6 ☐ Number of employees (full-time equivalents) who currently work in the facility:
☐ Fewer than 50 ☐ 50 - 99 ☒ 100 - 499 ☐ 500 - 1000 ☐ More than 1000
- A.7 ☐ Does your company meet the Small Business Administration definition of a small business for your sector? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- A.8 ☐ North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) Code(s) that are used to classify business at the facility: 325188 _____
- A.9 ☒ In your application and, perhaps, in previous annual performance reports, you described what your facility does or makes. Have there been any (additional) changes to your facility's list of products and/or activities? If so, please list them in the space below. ☒ Yes ☐ No
See attached revised application
- A.10 ☐ Please update the list of environmental requirements that apply to your facility. In the space below, indicate any changes that have taken place during this reporting period. If you have no changes to report, please write "No changes."
No Changes

Section B

Environmental Management System

B.1 Environmental Management System Assessment. Please summarize EMS assessments conducted *during the year*. Attach additional sheets as necessary.

a. Was an EMS audit or other assessment done by an independent third party?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide the *type* (e.g., ISO 14001 certification), the *scope*, and the *dates* (mo/yr) of each assessment.

ISO14001 Surveillance Audit conducted on June 29, 2001, The scope was of sections 4.1, 4.3.3, 4.3.4, 4.6, 4.4.1, 4.4.3, 4.5.2, and 4.5.4. In December 7, 2002 the scope was sections 4.2, 4.4.4, 4.4.5, 4.3.2, 4.5.1, 4.4.7, 4.3.3, and 4.4.6.

b. Was an internal or corporate EMS audit conducted? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide the *scope* and the *dates* (mo/yr) of each audit.

The internal ISO 14001 Internal Audits were conducted quarterly on the dates and for the scope listed below.

February 13, 2001 - 0 4.2, 4.3.2, 4.3.1, 4.3.3

April 24, 2001 - 4.3.4, 4.4.2, 4.4.3, 4.4.4, 4.4.5, 4.5.3

August 14, 2001 - 4.4.6, 4.5.1 4.5.2, 4.6

October 17, 2001 - 4.1, 4.4.1, 4.4.7, 4.5.4

c. Was a compliance audit conducted? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide the *scope* and the *dates* (mo/yr) of each audit, and indicate *who* conducted the audit(s) (e.g., facility staff, corporate groups, third party).

Compliance audits are conducted under the direction of the Manager of Environmental Affairs and composed of a team consisting of a third party consulting firm (currently URS), corporate and personnel from our Boron Operations group.

d. (Optional) If you would like to describe any other audits or inspections that were conducted at your facility, please do so here.

Third party/Corporate Environmental Audit was conducted October 3-10, 2001. The scope of the audit was all media and permits.

Section B

(continued)

B.1

e. Briefly summarize corrective actions taken and other improvements made as a result of your EMS assessments and compliance audits.

As a result of a compliance audit we strengthened our hazardous waste management plan. We worked with our local permitting agency to change an operating permit so it is more accurate.

f. Has your facility corrected all instances of potential non-compliance and EMS non-conformance identified during your audits and other assessments?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ No such instances identified

If no, please explain your plans to correct these instances.

g. When was the last Senior Management review of your EMS completed? *mo/yr* 12/2001

Who headed the review?

Name: Mr./Mrs./Ms./Dr. Malcolm Pitt

Title: Plant Manager

Section B

(continued)

B.2 ISO 14001 Certification. Is your facility currently certified to ISO 14001? ☒ Yes ☐ No

B.3 Environmental Aspects Identification. When did your facility last conduct a systematic identification and/or review of your environmental aspects? *mo/yr* 8/2001

B.4 Progress Toward Achieving Objectives and Targets. In the table below, please provide a narrative summary of progress made toward EMS objectives and targets. **You may limit the summary to environmental aspects that are *significant* and towards which *progress* has been made during the *reporting year*.** In cases where progress relates specifically to a Performance Track performance commitment, complete the *Environmental Aspect* column, but in the *Progress* column simply refer to the performance commitment tables in Section C, i.e. "See Section C." Attach additional sheets as necessary.

<i>Environmental Aspect</i>	<i>Progress Made This Year</i> (e.g., quantitative or qualitative improvements, activities conducted)
Release of product into the harbor.	Three possible release points have been filled in with concrete to prevent the possibility of release.
Release from hazardous materials tanks into the harbor.	Although all the hazardous materials tanks have been upgraded to include secondary containment some of the process tanks do not. There is a plan to upgrade these areas within the year.

Section C

Environmental Performance Commitments

Please use the tables on pages 6-9 to summarize your facility's environmental performance against your Performance Track performance commitments. Complete only those boxes related to the baseline, current year, and performance commitment. If any of the boxes have been pre-completed for you, please verify the information. If you find information that is incorrect, cross it out and write in the correct information. **Leave blank any columns for future reporting years.**

C.1

Performance Commitment 1

a. Use this table to report data related to your first performance commitment.

Category (see page 16 of the instructions): Waste

Aspect (see page 16 of the instructions): Hazardous Solid Waste

	<i>Baseline (as stated in your application)</i>	<i>Year 1</i>	<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Year 3</i>	<i>Performance Commitment (the goal stated in your application)</i>
<i>Calendar Year</i>	2000	2001			2003
<i>Actual Quantity (per year)</i>	53.4	6.0			(optional)
<i>Measurement Units</i>	tons				
<i>Normalizing Factor*</i>	1.0	1.07			(optional)
<i>Basis for your Normalizing Factor*</i>	Annual production				
<i>Normalized Quantity* (per year)</i>	53.4	5.6			2.8

*See pages 17-19 of the instructions for more information

b. Briefly describe how you achieved improvements for this aspect or, if relevant, any circumstances that delayed progress.

We removed a process that generated a solution of ammonia as a waste product. However, this quantity does not reflect the total difference from the original baseline of 17.73 tons. Because of a change of personnel in the Environmental Engineer position we were unable to verify the volume quoted in the original application.

c. Please list any other EPA voluntary programs to which you are also reporting these data (e.g., Energy Star, Project XL).

Section C

(continued)

C.2 Performance Commitment 2

a. Use this table to report data related to your second performance commitment.

Category (see page 16 of the instructions): Air Emissions					
Aspect (see page 16 of the instructions): Emission of Particulate Matter					
	<i>Baseline (as stated in your application)</i>	<i>Year 1</i>	<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Year 3</i>	<i>Performance Commitment (the goal stated in your application)</i>
<i>Calendar Year</i>	2000	2001			2003
<i>Actual Quantity (per year)</i>	unquantifiable	unquantifiable			(optional)
<i>Measurement Units</i>					
<i>Normalizing Factor*</i>	1.0	1.07			(optional)
<i>Basis for your Normalizing Factor*</i>	Annual Production				
<i>Normalized Quantity* (per year)</i>	unquantifiable	unquantifiable			
*See pages 17-19 of the instructions for more information					

b. Briefly describe how you achieved improvements for this aspect or, if relevant, any circumstances that delayed progress.

Because this commitment cannot be quantified it will be replaced with a new commitment.

c. Please list any other EPA voluntary programs to which you are also reporting these data (e.g., Energy Star, Project XL).

Section C

(continued)

C.3

Performance Commitment 3

a. Use this table to report data related to your third performance commitment.

Category (see page 16 of the instructions): Accidental Releases

Aspect (see page 16 of the instructions): Release History

	<i>Baseline (as stated in your application)</i>	<i>Year 1</i>	<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Year 3</i>	<i>Performance Commitment (the goal stated in your application)</i>
<i>Calendar Year</i>	2000	2001			2003
<i>Actual Quantity (per year)</i>	2	1			(optional)
<i>Measurement Units</i>	reportable incidents				
<i>Normalizing Factor*</i>	1.0	1.07			(optional)
<i>Basis for your Normalizing Factor*</i>	Annual Production				
<i>Normalized Quantity* (per year)</i>	2	.93			0

*See pages 17-19 of the instructions for more information

b. Briefly describe how you achieved improvements for this aspect or, if relevant, any circumstances that delayed progress.
Increased environmental awareness through expanded training through tailgates, ISO 14001 and selected environmental topics.

c. Please list any other EPA voluntary programs to which you are also reporting these data (e.g., Energy Star, Project XL).

Section C

(continued)

C.4

Performance Commitment 4

a. Use this table to report data related to your fourth performance commitment.

Category (see page 16 of the instructions): Energy Usage					
Aspect (see page 16 of the instructions): Total Energy Use					
	<i>Baseline (as stated in your application)</i>	<i>Year 1</i>	<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Year 3</i>	<i>Performance Commitment (the goal stated in your application)</i>
<i>Calendar Year</i>	2000	2001			2003
<i>Actual Quantity (per year)</i>	11,562	10,999			(optional)
<i>Measurement Units</i>	MWh				
<i>Normalizing Factor*</i>	1.0	1.07			(optional)
<i>Basis for your Normalizing Factor*</i>	Annual Production				
<i>Normalized Quantity* (per year)</i>	11,562	10,279			10,406
*See pages 15-17 of the instructions for more information					

b. Briefly describe how you achieved improvements for this aspect or, if relevant, any circumstances that delayed progress.

This commitment will be replaced because we are a market demand based manufacturing process and it is unrealistic to imagine this magnitude of energy reduction.

c. Please list any other EPA voluntary programs to which you are also reporting these data (e.g., Energy Star, Project XL).

Section D

Public Outreach and Performance Reporting

D.1

Please briefly summarize the public outreach and reporting activities that your facility has conducted during the year. Feel free, but not obligated, to attach supporting materials (e.g., meeting agendas, public announcements). US Borax practices public outreach with the local High School, Middle School, YMCA and th Wilmington boys and girls club. Throughout the year management and hourly employees participate in Career Days, sponser Safety Contests, speak on a variety of issues and donate to their programs.

D.2

Please indicate which of the following methods your facility plans to use to make its Performance Track Annual Performance Report available to the public. Please check as many as are appropriate.

☒ Website (URL www.borax.com)

☐ Open House

☐ Meetings

☐ Press Releases

☐ Community Advisory Panel

☒ Other Display the achievement in the facility for visitors to see.

Section E

On behalf of US Borax,
(name of my facility)

I certify that

- ◆ I have read and agree to the terms and conditions specified in *the National Environmental Performance Track Program Guide*. This facility, to the best of my knowledge, continues to meet all program criteria;
- ◆ I have personally examined and am familiar with the information contained in this Annual Performance Report. The information contained in this report is, to the best of my knowledge and based on reasonable inquiry, true, accurate, and complete;
- ◆ My facility has an environmental management system (EMS), as defined in the Performance Track EMS criteria, including systems to maintain compliance with all applicable federal, state, tribal, and local environmental requirements in place at the facility, and the EMS will be maintained for the duration of the facility's participation in the program;
- ◆ My facility has conducted an objective assessment of its compliance with all applicable federal, state, tribal, and local environmental requirements; and the facility has corrected all identified instances of potential or actual noncompliance; and
- ◆ Based on the foregoing compliance assessments and subsequent corrective actions (if any were necessary), my facility is, to the best of my knowledge and based on reasonable inquiry, currently in compliance with applicable federal, state, tribal, and local environmental requirements.

I agree that EPA's decision whether to accept participants into or remove them from the National Environmental Performance Track is wholly discretionary, and I waive any right that may exist under any law to challenge EPA's acceptance or removal decision.

I am the senior manager with responsibility for the facility and am fully authorized to execute this statement on behalf of the corporation or other legal entity whose facility is part of the National Environmental Performance Track program.

Signature/Date 10/30/02

Printed Name Mr./Mrs./Ms./Dr. Steve Baele

Title Plant Manager

Phone Number/E-mail Address (310) 522-5369/steve.baele@borax.com

Facility Name US Borax

Facility Street Address 300 Falcon Avenue, Wilmington, CA 90788

Performance Track Identification Number A090020

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice

The public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 188 hours per respondent annually. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the Director, Collection Strategies Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2822), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20460. Include the OMB control number in any correspondence. Do not send the completed form to this address.